

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NEW DE 02655 231148Z

47

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
----- 087193

R 230945Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4167

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 2655

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TPSA, IN, US

SUBJ: SITE COVERAGE

REF: STATE 036153

1. THE EMBASSY HAS BEEN CLOSELY MONITORING SITE BROADCASTS IN REGARD TO WHETHER OR NOT THEY CARRY ALLEGATIONS OF US INTERFERENCE IN INDIAN AFFAIRS BECAUSE WE HAVE FELT ANY SUCH EXPLICIT ALLEGATION WOULD CLEARLY EXCEED THE BOUNDS OF WHAT WE SHOULD ACCEPT IN REGARD TO INDIAN USE OF OUR SATELLITE. AS WE HAVE REPORTED, THE GOI HAS COME PRETTY CLOSE TO THE BOUNDARY OF OUR TOLERANCE. THERE HAS BEEN ANOTHER ASPECT OF SITE BROADCASTS FOR WHICH THE USG COULD BE CRITICIZED. SINCE THE DECLARATION OF THE EMERGENCY DAILY NEWS BROADCASTS CARRIED ON SITE HAVE BEEN REplete WITH DESCRIPTIONS OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE EMERGENCY. IN LINE WITH OUR GENERAL POLICY OF AVOIDING STATEMENTS OR ACTIONS WHICH CRITICIZE THE EMERGENCY WE HAVE THUS FAR NOT PROPOSED THAT THIS SUBJECT BE TAKEN UP WITH THE GOI. IT OCCURS TO US, HOWEVER, THAT A SUBSTANTIAL CASE COULD BE MADE BY ONE WHO TOOK EXCEPTION TO THE EMERGENCY THAT THE GOI HAS USED SITE FOR BLATANT POLITICAL PROPAGANDA. WHILE REFTEL REACHED US TOO LATE TO COMMENT PRIOR TO THE APPOINTMENT MENTIONED REFTEL, THE DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO BEAR THIS IN MIND IN FUTURE.

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PAGE 02 NEW DE 02655 231148Z

2. COMMENT: IF THIS WERE LEFT ENTIRELY TO MY
DISCRETION I WOULD PULL THE SITE SWITCH TOMORROW.
HOWEVER, I RECOGNIZE THERE ARE ASPECTS OF THIS EXPERIMENT
WHICH MAY GO BEYOND MY COMPETENCE AND LEAVE THE DECISION
TO WASHINGTON.
SAXBE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MONITORING, TELEVISION BROADCASTING, SATELLITES, ANTIAMERICAN FEELING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: saccheem
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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From: NEW DELHI
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